

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) Particulates comprising 10-95% wt of a matrix material and 5-90% wt of fatty matter ~~essentially~~ dispersed in the matrix material, wherein said fatty matter comprises 5-100% wt ~~on fatty matter~~ of one or more of phytosterols, and wherein the matrix comprises a protein and a carbohydrate, and wherein the amount of phytosterols is at least 1 wt% ~~on the total weight~~ of the particulates.

Claim 2 (Original) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the phytosterols comprise fatty acid esters of sterols.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the fatty matter is dispersed in the matrix material as discrete regions.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the fatty matter is dispersed in the matrix material as oily or fatty matter droplets, crystals or particles.

Claim 5 (Original) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the protein comprises a dairy protein, hydrolysed protein, gelatin, soy protein, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate comprises maltodextrin, sugar, ~~sugar derivative~~, starch, flour, chemically modified starch,

physically modified starch, xanthan, guar, locust bean gum, alginate, pectin, carrageenan, polydextrose, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein the matrix material comprises dairy products-like selected from the group of liquid and/or powdered (skim) milk or cream.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) Particulates according to claim 1, wherein at least 60% by weight of the particulates has a size of 1-1000 μm .

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) Particulates according to claim 4, wherein at least 60% by weight of the oily or fatty matter droplets, crystals or particles has a size of 0.05-100 μm .

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) Particulates according to claim 1, containing less than 30% wt of water.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) Creamer or whitener comprising 10-100% of the particulates according to claim 1.

Claim 12 (Original) Food product comprising the creamer or whitener composition according to claim 11.

Claim 13 (Currently amended) Composition comprising (weight % based on dry weight) 2-50% wt salt, 0-30% wt MSG, 0-50% fat and/or fatty matter, 0-20% wt herbs and/or spices, 0-30% wt vegetable particulates, 0-30% wt starch-based thickener and further comprising 0.1-65% wt (preferably 2-50% wt) of the particulates according to claim 1.

Claim 14 (Original) Food product according to claim 12, which is a soup- or sauce concentrate.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) Composition comprising (weight % on dry weight) 0-80% sugar and/or sweet and/or non-sweet starch hydrolysate and/or non-sugar sweetener, 0.5-80%

- tea powder, instant tea, tea flavour, tea colorant, dried tea, tea concentrate, and/or
 - coffee powder, instant coffee, coffee flavour, coffee colorant, dried coffee, coffee concentrate, and/or
 - cocoa powder, instant cocoa, cocoa flavour, cocoa colorant, dried cocoa, cocoa concentrate, and/or
 - milkshake powder, instant milkshake, milkshake flavour, milkshake colorant, dried milkshake, milkshake concentrate, and/or
 - milk powder, instant milk, milk flavour, milk colorant, dried milk, milk concentrate, and/or
 - soymilk powder, instant soymilk, soymilk flavour, soymilk colorant, dried soymilk, soymilk concentrate, and/or
 - dairy drink powder, instant dairy drink, dairy drink flavour, dairy drink colorant, dried dairy drink, dairy drink concentrate, and/or
 - fruit juice powder, instant fruit juice, fruit juice flavour, fruit juice colorant, dried fruit juice, fruit concentrate, and/or
 - fruit smoothie powder, instant fruit smoothie, fruit smoothie flavour, fruit smoothie colorant, dried fruit smoothie, fruit smoothie concentrate,
- and further comprising 1-75% wt of the particulates according to claim 1.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) Composition according to claim 15, comprising 30-65% wt sugar or sweet starch hydrolysate, 0.8-20 % wt black tea powder and/or black tea flavour and further comprising 20-60% wt of the particulates.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) Process for manufacturing the particulates according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

- preparing an emulsion or dispersion of the fatty matter and matrix material in an aqueous liquid
- drying said emulsion or dispersion.

Claim 18 (Original) Process according to claim 16, further comprising a homogenising step prior to the drying of the emulsion or dispersion.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) Process for preparing a liquid or pasty sauce, soup or concentrate of such a sauce or soup, which process includes the step of including 0.1-65% wt of the particulates according to claim 1 in such liquid or pasty sauce, soup or concentrate of such a sauce or soup.

Claim 20. (new) The composition according to claim 13 comprising 2-50% wt of the particulates according to claim 1.

Claim 21. (new) The particulates according to claim 7 wherein the powdered milk is skim milk.